



## ***A Clean Environment is Important To All of Us!***

*In the City of Carlsbad, storm drains flow directly into local creeks, lagoons and the ocean without treatment. Storm water*



*pollution can cause human and*

*environmental health problems.*

*Storm water pollution comes from a variety of sources including grease and sewage spills, pesticide runoff from landscaping, and from materials such as concrete, mortar and soil from construction activities.*

*The City of Carlsbad is committed to improving water quality and reducing the amount of pollutants that enter our precious waterways.*



**For more information or to report an illegal discharge, please call 760-602-2799**

# **Storm Water Protection Program**



## **Fats, Oil, and Grease**

Fats, oil, and grease (FOG) are not only bad for your health, they are also bad news for our creeks, lagoons, and ocean. Storm water can carry FOG away from restaurant and kitchen grease traps, tallow bins, and used oil storage tanks to our streams and waterways. Oil and grease float on the water's surface blocking sunlight and oxygen needed by aquatic plants and animals. Best Management Practices or BMPs are procedures that help to prevent pollutants from entering our storm drains. Each of us can do our part to keep storm water clean. Using BMPs adds up to a pollution solution!



### **GREASE TRAPS**



Grease traps are useful in collecting FOG from kitchen wastewater, but they must be periodically serviced in order to be effective. Grease traps are above ground or in ground tanks that allow water draining from a kitchen to catch FOG before it enters the sanitary sewer. If they are not properly maintained, FOG can clog sewer lines and cause overflows that could runoff into the storm drain system. Keep records of when used oil is collected, when grease traps are inspected, who cleaned the grease trap, and where the FOG from the trap is taken.

### **TALLOW BINS**

Used cooking oil is actually a valuable material that can be processed into products and used in animal feeds, fuels, and chemicals. Extending the life of oil means that less oil is purchased, recycled, or disposed. Containers must be covered so that rain does not enter the container and overflow. When storage tanks require cleaning, they should never be cleaned outside and allowed to drain into storm drains or to contaminate soil or paved surfaces. It is a good idea to place used oil storage containers in bermed areas so that spills can not flow into the storm



### **FOG SPILLS**



If an accidental spill occurs immediately use rags, a mop, or an absorbent to contain the spill and prevent grease and oil from entering the storm drain. For dry spills, sweep up the area and dispose of waste properly. **Never use a water hose to clean up a spill.**

### **MORE FOG BMPs**

- Never pour grease into a sink, floor drain, storm drain, or dumpster.
- Place spill response kits containing absorbents, mops, brooms, and other dry clean up tools nearby in a well marked and accessible location.
- Areas around grease storage containers should **never** be cleaned with hoses or pressure washers.
- Watch out for and report overflowing grease interceptors, tallow bins and storage containers.
- Keep tallow bins closed when not in use.
- Storage containers should be regularly inspected and kept in good condition.

**For information about properly disposing of and/or recycling fats, oil, or grease contact your oil and grease rendering company.**